

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
INRE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /054 W  
-----061216Z 082062 /53

O 061135Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3883

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 8039

FOR KUX, NEA/INS FROM SCHNEIDER

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR MNUC TECH IN  
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH MEHTA

1. WE HAVE CONFIRMED TO MEA THAT NEY IS READY TO MEET WITH MEHTA AT BREAKFAST UNTIL 10:00 A.M. ON JUNE 10. SUGGEST THAT YOU ALSO ALERT EMBASSY LONDON AS IT SHOULD GET FINAL CONFIRMATION THROUGH THE INDIAN DELEGATION TO THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE AFTER IT ARRIVES ON JUNE 7.

2. WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH MEHTA DEPENDS IN PART ON HIS BRIEF FROM HIS FOREIGN MINISTER AND IT HAS BEEN OBVIOUS FROM MEHTA'S COMMENTS THAT HE BELIEVED HIS INSTRUCTIONS WOULD DEPEND UPON WHAT TRANSPIRED IN VAJPAYEE'S MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY. SUGGEST YOU USE THE REPORT ON THIS MEETING AS FURTHER GUIDANCE FOR THE LONDON DISCUSSION (WE DO NOT YET HAVE A REPORT ON THE PARIS TALK). WHEN MEHTA FIRST TALKED ABOUT MEETING NYE HE SEEMED TO BE MOST INTERESTED IN A GENERAL DISCUSSION DESIGNED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT US NUCLEAR POLICY AND HOW WE HAD IN MIND APPLYING IT TO INDIA. MUCH HAS HAPPENED SINCE THEN AND, DEPENDING UPON WHAT INSTRUCTIONS MEHTA GETS FROM VAJPAYEE, WE GUESS HE WILL BE INTERESTED IN AS DETAILED AN ELABORATION AS WE  
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CAN GIVE ON THE POINTS MADE BY THE AMBASSADOR IN HIS SECOND DISCUSSION HERE. THE AMBASSADOR DID GO OVER THE POINTS IN HIS INSTRUCTION IN DETAIL AND LEFT A TALKING POINTS PAPER (WHICH WE ARE TRANSMITTING SEPARATELY) AND SO MEHTA WILL BE FAMILIAR WITH THEM. IN OTHER WORDS, WE AGREE WITH YOUR SUGGESTION S PARA 3 REFTEL THAT THE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS CAN BE USED AS A TALKING PAPER PROVIDING SUBSTANTIAL

ELABORATION CAN ALSO BE PROVIDED. IN MAKING THIS ELABORATION, THE AMBASSADOR CONSIDERS IT QUITE IMPORTANT THAT WE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE INDIAN CONCERNS AND SENSITIVITIES WHICH WERE SUMMARIZED IN HIS MESSAGE. FOR EXAMPLE, IF WE CAN DEMONSTRATE THAT WE INTEND TO TREAT INDIA EXACTLY AS WE INTEND TO DEAL WITH ALL OTHER NATIONS, WE WILL HAVE CROSSED A MAJOR HURDLE.

3. IF HE HAS ADEQUATE INSTRUCTIONS, MEHTA WILL ALSO WANT TO DISCUSS PROCEDURES. WE AGREE THAT HE WILL PROBABLY WANT TO MOVE DIRECTLY TO THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS BUT HOLD UP POLICY MATTERS AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER THE BUDGET SESSION OF PARLIAMENT. HE MAY ALSO WANT TO EXPLORE SUCH MATTERS AS COMPOSITION OF NEGOTIATING TEAMS AND PLACES OF MEETINGS.

4. MY GUESS IS THAT BOTH MEHTA (BECAUSE HE SEEKS BETTER INDO-US RELATIONS) AND SETHNA (BECAUSE HE WANTS CONTINUED NUCLEAR COOPERATION) WILL BE INTERESTED IN COMPROMISING OUR DIFFERENCES. VELLODI SEEMS A BIT LESS COMPROMISING; WE ARE UNSURE WHERE SHANKAR STANDS. OF COURSE, THE GOI WILL NAME ITS DELEGATION AND SO WE WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH WHOM WE GET. IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CANADIANS THE INDIAN TEAM WAS THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, THE PRINCIPAL PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND, OFF AND ON, SETHNA. (OF THESE, SETHNA IS THE ONLY ONE STILL IN OFFICE). IT IS DOUBTFUL TO ME THAT SETHNA COULD BE THE PRINCIPAL NEGOTIATOR ON THE POLICY QUESTION ALTHOUGH HE MAY BE MORE ACTIVE ON TECHNICAL ISSUES. FOR POLICY TALKS IT IS MORE LIKELY THAT THE INDIANS

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WILL FIELD A DELEGATION SUCH AS THAT WHICH DEALT WITH THE CANADIANS.

5. WE PUT INTO THE FAST POUCH ON FRIDAY DETAILED MEMCONS COVERING THE TALKS WITH BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE OFFICIALS; THESE MAY BE HELPFUL IN PREPARING FOR YOUR LONDON DISCUSSION.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NUCLEAR FUELS, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEETING WITH MEHTA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MNUC, TECH, IN, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009